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REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is proper because it narrows the issues on appeal and does not require further search by the Examiner.

Prior to this Amendment, claims 1-27 and 36 were pending in this application.

Claims 1-19 and 36 were allowed, and claims 20-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hidding, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,307,945. The rejected claims have been canceled, leaving only allowed claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-19 and 36, all the claims presently pending in the application, are <u>allowable</u> and that the application is in <u>condition for allowance</u>. Such action would be appreciated.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

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including extension of time fees, to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: (11/1/2004

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that I am filing this Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 and Petition and Fee for Extension of Time by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark

Office to Examiner Nathan Jeffrey Newhouse, Group Art Unit 3727 at fax number (703) 8729306 this 15th day of April, 2004.

James N. Dresser, Esq. Registration No. 22,973